

Senate File 2297 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 2297
BY COMMITTEE ON VETERANS
AFFAIRS

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 2183)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act concerning veterans and military service, including
2 waivers and refunds of certain fees, use of state
3 facilities, public utility disconnection of service, and
4 declarations for disposition of remains.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 29A.14A Use of government
2 facilities.

3 Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the
4 state or any political subdivision of the state, shall permit
5 the rental of facilities under its control, for a fee not
6 in excess of any expenses incurred by the state or political
7 subdivision, for designated military events. For purposes
8 of this section, "*designated military event*" means an event,
9 authorized by the adjutant general, for military family
10 readiness groups or for returning veterans of the national
11 guard, reserves, or regular components of the armed forces of
12 the United States for a period of up to one year from the date
13 of return from active duty.

14 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 144.13B Waiver of fees — military
15 service.

16 Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the
17 contrary, the certified copy fees for a birth certificate or
18 death certificate of a service member, as defined in section
19 29A.90, who died while on active duty shall be waived for a
20 period of one year from the date of death for a family member
21 of the deceased service member.

22 Sec. 3. Section 144C.6, Code 2009, is amended by adding the
23 following new subsection:

24 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. A declaration for disposition of remains
25 made by a service member, as defined in section 29A.90, on
26 forms provided and authorized by the department of defense
27 for service members for this purpose shall constitute a valid
28 declaration of designee for purposes of this chapter.

29 Sec. 4. Section 476.20, subsection 3, Code 2009, is amended
30 by adding the following new unnumbered paragraph:

31 NEW UNNUMBERED PARAGRAPH. The rules established by the
32 board shall provide that a public utility furnishing gas
33 or electricity shall not disconnect service to a residence
34 in which one of the heads of household is a service member
35 deployed for military service, as defined in section 29A.90,

1 prior to a date ninety days after the end of the service
2 member's deployment, if the public utility is informed of the
3 deployment.

4 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. **483A.24A License refunds — military**
5 **service.**

6 Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the
7 contrary, a service member deployed for military service,
8 both as defined in section 29A.90, shall receive a refund of
9 that portion of any license fee paid by the service member
10 representing the service member's period of military service.

11 EXPLANATION

12 This bill concerns veterans and military service, adding
13 Code provisions relating to fees, use of state facilities,
14 public utilities, and disposition of remains.

15 New Code section 29A.14A requires the state, or a political
16 subdivision of the state, to allow the use of facilities under
17 its control for certain designated military events for not
18 more than the cost of expenses. The Code section defines
19 a designated military event as an event, authorized by the
20 adjutant general, for military family readiness groups or for
21 returning veterans for a period of up to one year from the date
22 of return from active duty.

23 New Code section 144.13B waives the fees for a birth or death
24 certificate of a service member who dies while on active duty
25 for a period of one year from the date of death for a family
26 member of the deceased service member.

27 Code section 144C.6, concerning a declaration of a designee
28 for disposition of remains, is amended to provide that a
29 declaration for disposition of remains made by a service member
30 on forms provided and authorized by the department of defense
31 for service members for this purpose shall constitute a valid
32 declaration of designee.

33 Code section 476.20, relating to the disconnection of
34 utilities, is amended to provide that a public utility
35 furnishing gas or electricity shall not disconnect service to a

1 residence in which one of the heads of household is a service
2 member deployed for military service prior to a date 90 days
3 after the end of the service member's deployment.

4 New Code section 483A.24A provides that a service member
5 deployed for military service shall receive a refund of that
6 portion of any fishing or hunting license fee paid by the
7 service member representing the service member's period of
8 military service.